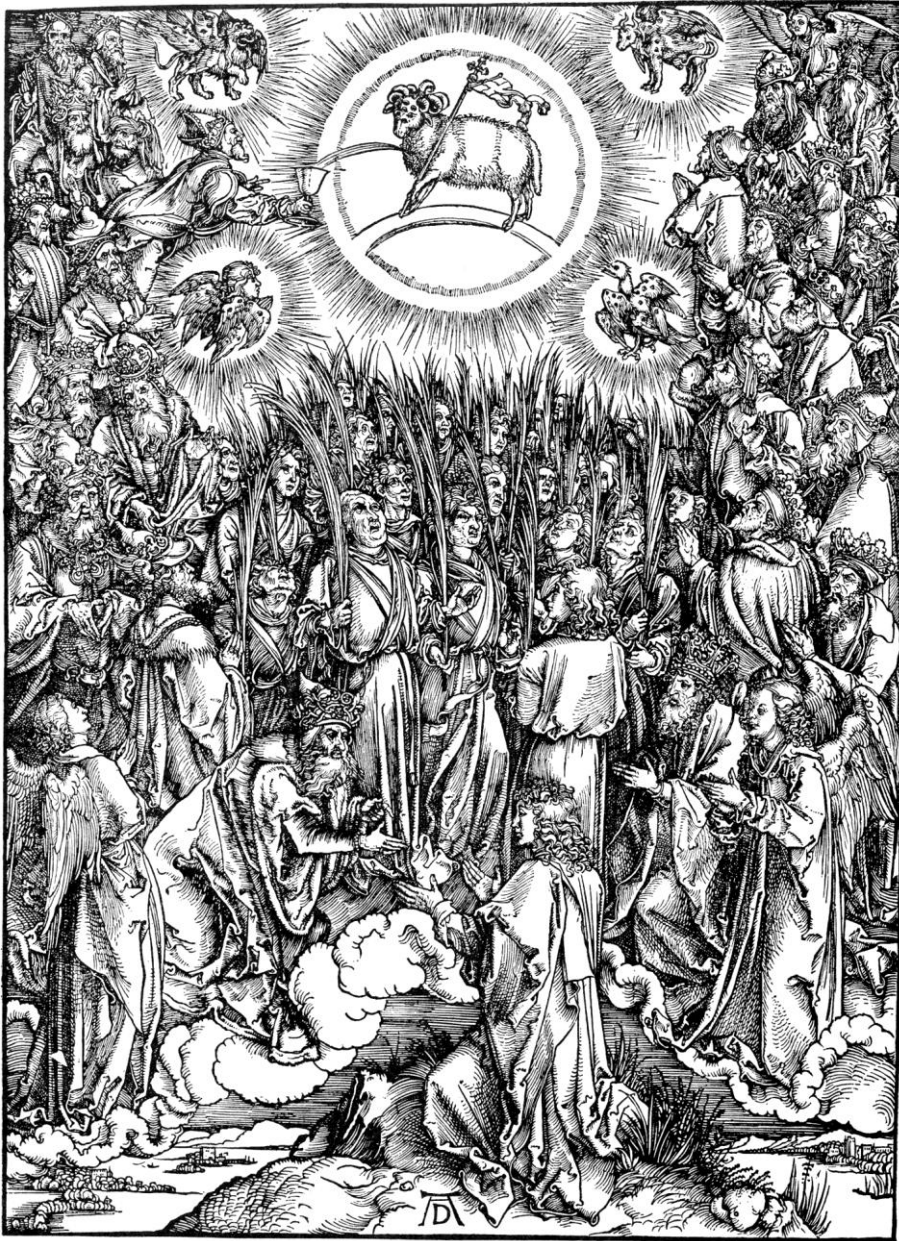


Believe you this?



Revelation 5:6

John 1:29

FREE ~ TAKE ONE

The words you're about to read contain the single most important truth you will ever encounter in your lifetime. How you respond to these words may alter the course of your life forever. I cannot express to you enough on how serious you should take the words you're about to read.

One of the biggest certainties we face in this world is that no one knows how soon they will die. Unfortunately, many people don't ever think about where their spirit will go when this happens. So please allow me to ask you an age old question from the Bible.

For what shall it profit (benefit) a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?¹

The very thing many people find uncomfortable to talk about, I will boldly address in this short read. Nothing can be more important than to stop and truly consider the claims made by Christ Jesus concerning the life or death of your spirit.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God to salvation to everyone that believes.²

But I would like to establish a few things first. No matter how hard people may try, we cannot escape the fact that God is found in all things from the incredible detail of the human eye to the vast marvels of the universe.

¹Mark 8:36 ²Romans 1:16

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament (expanse) shows His handiwork.³ For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.⁴

With that being said I would like to now speak about the trustworthiness of God's Word which is known to us as the Bible. The Bible has proven itself to be written by the divine inspiration of God through its amazing accuracy shown in its fulfilled prophecy, proven historic accuracy through archeology, and its science presented prior to mankind's understanding and discovery. Just an honest and thorough study on these topics would give merit to these claims. * See websites on last page

The Bible is God's words written to mankind and through mankind.^{*A} Through the Words of God He teaches us that He is made up of three Persons, we know as the Trinity. The first is in the character of a Father, the second is in the form of a Son and the third is the Spirit who unifies all things belonging to God.^{*B} The Spirit also works to unite with those who are unfamiliar with God. This is the very reason I present this extremely important message to you now in all sincerity and concern for the well-being of your soul.

The message is simple and yet very profound. We find in the ancient manuscripts of God's Holy Word that God's first creation of beings where what we know as angels.^{*C} This race of beings was the first to exercise their God given free will displayed through a massive rebellion created out of their own pride and hunger for God's power.^{*D} A high ranking angel whose name was Lucifer, also known to us as Satan, lead this rebellion

which had a following of one third of the angels. God cast Lucifer (Satan) and his rebellious angels, we know as demons, out of their place in Heaven.^{*E}

God then created another race of beings, with a free will, called mankind. They too like the fallen angels chose to disobey God; but this time there was an instigator in the fall which was Satan. God planned to allow the human race to have another chance to be with Him with no sin (sin caused separation and death). God graciously promised Adam and Eve that they would produce a Savior for mankind.^{*F} This was done through the punishment of Jesus dying on the cross in place of our punishment for our sins.^{*G} I will now explain the depth of what that all means.

When Adam and Eve sinned it caused separation between sinful mankind and a perfect God. God is the essence of life and to turn against Him is to turn from life which results in death and eternal separation from God. Death was chosen by God to be a punishment for sin so that mankind would not live forever in a fallen state. Also, death would allow an opportunity for a rebirth into a new life without sin and separation from God. The power to create life was also given to mankind for their own benefit. For it was through this method that God chose to bring about a Savior for mankind.

God became man who we know as Jesus, the second person of the Trinity (the Son), to be the first human to die without committing sin. Jesus, being God, came so He could die in our place. The punishment for sin is death; but He didn't deserve the penalty. Yet He took on the punishment of all mankind's sin, for all time. Jesus dying with no sin of His own had the power to pay our penalty and be raised from the dead. So death could not hold Him in the grave. It is through His resurrection

³Psalm 19:1 ⁴Romans 1:20 ^{*A}2 Timothy 3:16 ^{*B}Romans 1:3, 4

^{*C}1 John 5:7, 8 ^{*D}Hebrews 1:6, 7 ^{*E}Isaiah 14:12-15

^{*F}Revelation 12:7-9 ^{*G}Genesis 3

^{*F}Job 19:25, 26 ^{*G}Isaiah 52:13-53:12

we now have (in turn) the ability to follow Him in a resurrection.

But first you have to admit the fact that you have been separated from God due to your sin. Then you must turn away from the love you have towards sin and turn your affection towards God. Lastly, you must place your trust in Jesus to save you with His resurrecting power through His death on the cross for your sins. God through the person of Jesus sacrificed Himself for you by pouring out His scarlet blood in order that it would remove your scarlet sin. Here is one of the best passages from the Bible that sums up everything that I just explained.

For the wages of (payment for) sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.⁵

Now let's take this to a personal level. If you're honest with yourself, you'll agree that you are guilty of doing things you shouldn't do. You have committed sin. It is this sin that has separated you from having an eternal life with God, your Creator. The One you owe your life to.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.⁶ But your iniquities (sins) have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you.⁷ As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one. For all have sinned, and come (fall) short of the glory of God. Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.⁸

⁵Romans 6:23 ⁶1 John 1:8 ⁷Isaiah 59:2

⁸Romans 3:10, 23; 5:12

Physical death is the soul separating from the body, but spiritual death is the soul separating from God. Now if God is righteous (which He is) then He has to punish sin, just as a judge here on earth is expected to penalize law breakers. How great is your sin if it's against a perfect and eternal God? You can't honestly expect God to just ignore your sin and yet still be able to be a righteous God. You wouldn't even be able to respect a judge in a court of law if he let lawbreakers just walk free. You would expect punishment for their sin.

The only way for God to do away with the punishment for your sin is if someone else were to pay that penalty (price) for your sins. This is in fact exactly what God did with Jesus His Son who paid the ultimate price anyone could ever pay for another person. Jesus gave his life and died on that cross for you and all the races of mankind on this earth.

He took your place. He took on the punishment that belonged to you. Jesus, the Son of God became a sinless man so that He could save mankind by keeping all of God's laws but yet paying the penalty for breaking the law. This had never been done before in all of history and it changed everything! God died for man to live.

God was in Christ (Jesus), reconciling (resolving) the world to Himself, not imputing (counting) their trespasses to them; and has committed to us the word of reconciliation (resolution). For He has made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.⁹

⁹2 Corinthians 5:19, 21

He was wounded for our transgressions (disobediences), He was bruised for our iniquities (sins): the chastisement (punishment) of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes (whip-lashes) we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity (sin) of us all.¹⁰ Who His own self bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live to righteousness. For Christ also has once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened (made alive) by the Spirit.¹¹

This is the true significance of the cross of Christ. On that cross the Father God miraculously placed all the sins of all mankind for all time on Jesus, God's only Son. It was at that time all the punishment from God that we deserved was placed on Jesus instead. All this was done because God truly loves you and wants to save you from being eternally separated from Him when you die.

God commends His love toward us, in that, while we were yet (still) sinners, Christ died for us.¹² For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn (judge) the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.¹³ For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.¹⁴

God raised Jesus from the dead and you too will have life after death if you accept the salvation provided to you by Christ dying on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins.

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept (died). For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.¹⁵

For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for (a sacrifice for) sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken (make alive) your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwells in you.¹⁶

Jesus is the only way to get to Heaven and be made right with God. It's not by the good things you do, though a priest, church or any organization.

Jesus says to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man comes to the Father, but by Me.¹⁷ Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.¹⁸

¹⁰Isaiah 53:5, 6 ¹¹Peter 2:24, 3:18 ¹²Romans 5:8

¹³John 3:16, 17 ¹⁴Luke 19:10

¹⁵1 Corinthians 15:3, 4, 20-22 ¹⁶Romans 8:3, 4, 11

¹⁷John 14:6 ¹⁸Acts 4:12

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave Himself a ransom for all.¹⁹ Look to Me, and be you saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.²⁰

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh (man) be justified.²¹ For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast.²² Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us.²³

In order to receive the gift of salvation you must acknowledge and accept the gift that is offered freely to you. It's only through your own free will you can believe and receive this free gift of God's mercy and grace.

Incline your ear, and come to Me: hear, and your soul shall live.²⁴ He that hears my word, and believes on Him that sent Me, has everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death to life.²⁵ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.²⁶ If you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart man believes to righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made to salvation. For whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.²⁷

¹⁹1 Timothy 2:5, 6 ²⁰Isaiah 45:22 ²¹Galatians 2:16

²²Ephesians 2:8, 9 ²³Titus 3:5 ²⁴Isaiah 55:3

²⁵John 5:24 ²⁶1 John 1:9 ²⁷Romans 10:9, 10, 13

He that believes on the Son has everlasting life: and he that believes not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abides (remains) on him. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name. Jesus answered and said... except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.²⁸

True belief will bring a conviction towards your sin and a decision to live a different way that will now be pleasing to God. It is very important that your heart has a genuine desire to turn from practicing sin and turn to God and the way He wants you to live. This is called repentance.

Repent you therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out.²⁹ For godly sorrow works repentance to salvation.³⁰ Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.³¹ The Lord is not slack (slow) concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.³² Except you repent, you shall all likewise perish.³³

If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. And he that takes not his cross, and follows after Me, is not worthy of Me.³⁴ Know you not that the friendship of the world is enmity (hatred) with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.³⁵

²⁸John 3:36, 1:12, 3:3 ²⁹Acts 3:19

³⁰2 Corinthians 7:10 ³¹Acts 20:21b ³²Peter 3:9

³³Luke 13:3b ³⁴Matthew 16:24b, 10:38 ³⁵James 4:4b

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent you, and believe the gospel.³⁶

Be warned, Satan will do everything in his power to get you to reject or put off accepting the salvation being offered to you now. Also know that rejecting God takes the risk of him allowing you to harden your heart and become a slave to the sin you desire. This is where how you respond to this message can change the course of your life for better or worse. You now have a great responsibility with the knowledge you have been given here. My friend, I beg you...

Choose you this day whom you will serve.³⁷ Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.³⁸ Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call you upon Him while He is near.³⁹ Whereas you know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away.⁴⁰ And as it is appointed to men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and to them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin to salvation.

If we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation (outrage), which shall devour the adversaries (enemies).⁴¹

I must warn you, an eternal punishment and separation from God waits for you if you decide to reject Jesus and His salvation given through His sacrifice on the cross for your sins.

The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power.⁴² The Son of Man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity (lawlessness); And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.⁴³ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. And the smoke of their torment ascends up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night.⁴⁴

Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, to the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, to the resurrection of damnation.⁴⁵ He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be damned.⁴⁶

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold (suppress) the truth in unrighteousness. Because that which may be known of God is manifest in (known to) them; for God has showed it to them.

³⁶Mark 1:15 ³⁷Joshua 24:15b ³⁸2 Corinthians 6:2b
³⁹Isaiah 55:6 ⁴⁰James 4:14 ⁴¹Hebrews 9:27, 28, 10:26, 27

⁴²Thessalonians 1:7b-9 ⁴³Matthew 13:41, 42
⁴⁴Revelation 20:14, 15, 14:11 ⁴⁵John 5:28, 29 ⁴⁶Mark 16:16

For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.⁴⁷

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in His body, according to that He has done, whether it be good or bad.⁴⁸ Then shall He say also to them on the left hand, depart from Me, you cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.⁴⁹

If you accept the redemption found in the sacrifice Jesus made for you then you can experience the joy of being saved from eternal separation and torment. You can have a peaceful hope of knowing you have an eternal life of love and joy with your heavenly Father and Creator.

And this is the record, that God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that has the Son has life; and he that has not the Son of God has not life. These things have I written to you that believe on the name (power & authority) of the Son of God; that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God.⁵⁰

⁴⁷Romans 1:18-21 ⁴⁸2 Corinthians 5:10

⁴⁹Matthew 25:41, 46 ⁵⁰1 John 5:11-13

Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled (resolved) to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement (reconciliation).⁵¹

To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He has made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.⁵² When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall you also appear with Him in glory.⁵³ So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory?⁵⁴

When you repent of your sins and accept salvation, the power of God through His Spirit comes and dwells within you to give you power to not have to give into sin anymore. However Christians of course are not perfect, but certainly forgiven.

Whosoever shall confess (admit) that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwells in him, and he in God.⁵⁵ Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that hereafter we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.⁵⁶

⁵¹Romans 5:9-11 ⁵²Ephesians 1:6, 7 ⁵³Colossians 3:4

⁵⁴1 Corinthians 15:54, 55 ⁵⁵1 John 4:15 ⁵⁶Romans 6:4, 6, 7

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.⁵⁷ For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness.⁵⁸

I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved.⁵⁹ And you shall seek Me, and find Me, when you shall search for Me with all your heart.⁶⁰ Come now, and let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.⁶¹ If the Son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.⁶²

My friend, God is there with you right now as you read this. You can speak to Him and He will listen. You can call out to Him and He will save you. I wish to end this invitation to your salvation with a question directly from Jesus that I pray you will answer Him with a genuine "yes".

I am He that lives, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.⁶³

I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believes in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.

Believe you this?⁶⁴



⁵⁷2 Corinthians 5:17 ⁵⁸Psalms 107:9 ⁵⁹John 10:9

⁶⁰Jeremiah 29:13 ⁶¹Isaiah 1:18 ⁶²John 8:36

⁶³Revelation 1:18 ⁶⁴John 11:25, 26

If you are a Christian please don't forget that the key practices to keeping yourself close to God are Prayer, Bible Reading, Fellowship at Church, Discipleship & Witnessing. If you're not witnessing then I encourage you to seize the day while you have it.

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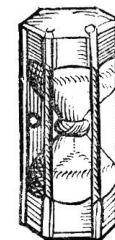
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Translation: KJV Easy Reader

Creation Date: March 2015



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